

THE CHRISTIAN HERALD.

VOL. IV.] Saturday, September 27, 1817. [No. 1.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

A very summary sketch of the celebration of the *Thirteenth Anniversary* of the above Institution was given in No. 21 of our last volume. We have since received from our obliging correspondent at Liverpool a full account of that meeting, together with authentic copies of the several speeches delivered on the occasion. These speeches are too excellent and interesting to admit of much abridgment. We shall insert them nearly entire in the present and subsequent Numbers of this publication. The Rev. Dr. Mason's speech we have already given in No. 24 of the last volume.

W. WILBERFORCE, Esq. Vice-President, in moving the adoption of the Report, (after apologizing for bodily indisposition) said,

“My Lord,—I should, I confess, be sorry not to express, however imperfectly, the delight with which I have listened to the recital we have just been hearing, and with which I propose that the Report be adopted and printed, under the direction of the Committee.

“We are called on, my Lord, to offer up our humble acknowledgments to the Almighty; and while we offer our cordial thanksgivings to Him, to pour forth, at the same time, our congratulations to each other, that we are rendered the honoured instruments of diffusing throughout the world such a tide of light and happiness.

“The glories of our Society, which we are now celebrating, are glories which will last for ever. And it is delightful to observe, that their merit is duly appreciated in other countries. I find, by one passage in the Report, that in Switzerland there are many who have entered on the same course, and are following in the path in which we have gone before them. This will be peculiarly gratifying to those who, like myself, feel a more than ordinary measure of cordial attachment to that land of liberty. Germany also, in which the great religious Reformation first had its rise, is prosecuting the good work of circulating the Holy Scriptures with more than common ardour. Germany is imitating our example, and emulating us with a rivalry which knows nothing of base or vulgar competition. The blessed flame, which we have thus happily kindled on the Continent, we see infusing life and action throughout the immense mass of the Russian Empire, and awakening Siberia herself into motion, and communicating to it a kindly warmth.

“My Lord, I must not attempt, for I am unable, to express the feelings which animate me; but I cannot sit down, without stating for myself, and it is a feeling in which I doubt not every one else will participate, that I propose the printing of this Report with the more pleasure, from the kind manner in which it mentions our

dear and excellent friend, whose absence we so much regret ; I mean the Rev. Mr. Owen. In that afflicting dispensation, which has prevented him from having the gratification of continuing to labour in our cause, we must, at the same time, recognize the mercy of Providence, which did not lay him by till he had gone through an almost unequalled amount of labour and service. He laid the foundation ; he was permitted to see the superstructure rise to heaven itself ; and still more, he was enabled to complete the History of our achievements, in a work which, though laborious, could not, even to the compiler himself, be without gratification. For it is always gratifying to trace any great work from its outset to its consummation ; to trace its gradual progress ; to see the obstacles it has overcome : and this work of our friend's will hereafter, I doubt not, be justly accounted through succeeding ages an imperishable record of one of the most extraordinary dispensations of Providence, which ever was vouchsafed to enlighten and to bless the world.

" Under this impression, it is with delight I see the Report pay this tribute of affection and gratitude to a man to whom we owe so much ; that when he is no longer able to come to us, we go, as it were, to him, into our sick friend's chamber, and there endeavour to pour the strains of gratitude and consolation into his ear, when that tongue, which has so often delighted us, is silent."

Thanks to the President were moved by the BISHOP of GLOUCESTER, Vice-President, and seconded by Sir T. D. ACKLAND, Bart.

The BISHOP of GLOUCESTER :

" My Lords and Gentlemen,

" The modesty of my Noble Friend forbids me to dwell upon those particular features of his character, which this resolution recalls especially to our minds ; but I cannot forbear expressing the particular pleasure with which I pay my humble tribute of respect to those public merits, which I know to be so consistently associated with eminent private virtues. But, my Lords and Gentlemen, this very connexion between public services and individual character, leads me to a train of thought, in which, with your permission, I will for a few moments indulge.

" I gladly leave to those who are far better qualified the delightful task of expatiating upon the various interesting particulars which our Report, the annals of the year, has presented to our contemplation, and must content myself with venturing to press earnestly upon the attention of this highly respectable assembly my view of the feelings which such a Report should excite.

" The first feeling should surely be, that of joy and gratitude to the Giver of so good a gift ;—to Him, who, in the midst of such unexampled difficulty and universal distress, has still maintained the spirit of our friends, and drawn forth even, as it were, out of deep poverty abundant liberality.

" In the second place, we may justly expect, that a determination to persevere in patient hope, will arise from the consideration

of this Report. Have difficulties arisen? Has opposition increased in any part of our sphere of operations? Have our funds in any instance appeared to lessen, and to be directed to other channels? Surely, we shall derive from these little checks the right lesson of humility, and only become the more anxious to pursue our work in a Christian spirit, and to compensate for any failures by more strenuous efforts, and, if possible, by greater sacrifices. In due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

“With this determination to persevere must surely be associated the firm principle of faith and implicit dependence upon the God of the Bible. Have all our astonishing successes been in vain? Is it nothing, that bigotry in one part of Christendom, and superstition in another; is it nothing, that Mahometan pride and Pagan idolatry have begun in various quarters to give way? Has not the hand of God been almost visibly with us for good, and his presence among us of a truth? Has the Sun of Righteousness shone so long with uninterrupted splendour, and shall a little cloud make us doubt his continued favour for a moment? Shall we not rather cast ourselves still more simply and unreservedly upon his long experienced protection, and be assured that the cause of his word will find in him a rock which shall never be shaken—the rock of ages, against which all the force or the devices of the powers of darkness shall never prevail?

“But, lastly, though I am conscious that I tread here upon tender and delicate ground, I desire to press home, as upon my own heart, so upon that of every individual in this vast assembly, the following considerations: This blessed work of spreading far and wide the Scriptures of salvation engages our admiration, our affections and exertions. Is this word thoroughly known, and duly prized, as dear and precious to our own selves? Have we made a right and profitable use of this treasure, so long in our possession? Are we in the daily habit of devoutly studying and applying to our own cases a portion of Holy Writ? Have we sought with earnest prayer to derive the genuine saving doctrines from it? Are we living in any measure conformably to its standard?

“Are our spirit and temper such as are inculcated by the word of God, the wisdom which is from above: ‘pure, peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated; full of mercy and good fruits; without partiality, and without hypocrisy?’

“I venture to suggest these questions for a special reason, connected with the success of our Society.

“The infidel, the careless, and the worldly minded, are apt to measure the value of our cause, and their own obligation to contribute to it, by the effects which this professed regard to the Bible has upon the life and conversation of its adherents. Let there be a prevailing consistency in our character and conduct. Let the instruments appear (humanly speaking) in some little measure worthy of the work; and all may be led to appreciate, to admire, and to support a cause, so obviously productive of the best and happiest results.

"You will, I trust, my Lords and Gentlemen, excuse these observations, which, however perhaps in some degree unusual, do not surely infringe upon our excellent principle, of abstaining from the introduction of *peculiar* sentiments of religion; and believe, that they are prompted by an ardent attachment to the Bible cause, and an earnest desire, that it may be all fair within, as it is assuredly all glorius without."

SIR THOMAS DYKE ACKLAND. Bart. M. P.

Sir Thomas, on rising, being desired to draw nearer to the Chair, said, that of course he could feel nothing but increased gratification in a nearer approach to the centre of that Christian union which was then assembled before him; and considering the purpose for which he was desired to address his Lordship, he might be allowed to recall to the recollection of the assembly the words of one of the most beloved, as well as most eloquent of their members, who had once said, on a similar occasion, "My Lord, you are the centre of the greatest circle that this world ever knew, a circle that encompasses the whole world, not limited by earth, but commensurate with heaven, continually expanding, not only through all time, but to all eternity."—He could add nothing to the effect of these words; and to those who had had the happiness of hearing them first uttered by his excellent friend, the slightest allusion must be sufficient to recall the delightful impression they excited. To himself the recollection had been peculiarly gratifying and encouraging at that moment, because, feeling deeply, as he did, the value of his Lordship's services to the Society, and infinitely more of affection and respect than he could permit himself publicly to express in his Lordship's presence, he felt also how utterly inadequate any words of his own must be to describe the unfeigned sentiments of approbation and regard for his Lordship, which pervaded the whole of that assembly, which animated the breast of every Member of the Society throughout the world, and with the expression of which, on their behalf, he had charged himself, by seconding the motion just read. He was glad, therefore, that an accidental circumstance, at his rising, had enabled him to avail himself of the eloquent sentiment of his Honourable Friend, and, in return, he would take the liberty of confirming, from his own experience, a statement, in the Report, of that morning, so feelingly noticed by that friend.

He alluded to the co-operation and sympathy of that happy land of liberty and simplicity, of loyalty and religion, which had so admirably seconded the efforts of the Society, and whose best feelings were almost identified with our own. In his progress through that country, he had frequently the happiness to hear his native land mentioned in a manner most gratifying to his national feelings. Her public spirit, and generous conduct; her successful struggle in the cause of justice, and the glory of her arms, were topics which called forth continually a well-earned praise; but praise, in some countries, is diminished by the imputation of selfish interest, or grudgingly yielded from somewhat of jealousy of

her pre-eminence, and anxiety respecting her influence and authority. But there were two topics which, in Switzerland especially, excited unqualified admiration; first, the emancipation of Africa from the slavery of the body; and, secondly, the emancipation of the world from the darkness and ignorance of the mind. When it was said, with gratitude and praise, that England had abolished the Slave Trade, and established the Bible Society, there remained behind no petty sorrow for her acknowledged superiority, but a desire to imitate her conduct, and emulate her benevolence. The guiding spirits, and providential instruments of these two achievements, were then present before them; and he could add, from his own experience, and he believed there were those dear to his Lordship, who, at this moment, experienced the same, that the name of his Lordship, as President of the Bible Society, was a passport, not through Switzerland alone, but he believed through almost every nation in Europe.

He had now, for the second time, had the honour of seconding, in the name, and on the behalf, of every man who heard him, without exception, the unfeigned thanks and acknowledgments of the Society, to their Noble President, for that patronage, and those exertions, which had so materially contributed to maintain the reputation; and extend the influence, of the Society: but he hoped that it might yet be his lot, and that of many others then present, (if it should please God so to prolong their lives.) to approach his Lordship, not merely as the centre of that holy union, and the elder of that band of Christian brethren, but, in the course of years, with the more endearing appellation, which earliest attachment, and long-continued kindness, would entitle them to give, and him to receive, and which, in common parlance, was often bestowed on the first, the oldest, and the best of any association—that of **THE FATHER** of the Society. He was extremely happy to have had that opportunity of again expressing his regard and esteem for his Lordship; and the only difficulty he had had in undertaking so pleasing a part in the proceedings of the day, was, that by thus presuming, in the name of the Society, to honour his Lordship, it was impossible for him not to feel, that he was, at the same time, honouring himself.

LORD TEIGNMOUTH, in reply, said:

“Gentlemen,

“In returning my cordial and grateful acknowledgments for the honour conferred on me by your resolution, I cannot but feel that if my abilities to promote the interests of the Institution were equal to my ardent wishes for its prosperity, I should better deserve the approbation of my services, which you have been pleased to express. For thirteen years it has been my pleasing office to report the progress of an Institution continually advancing in interest, respectability, and usefulness—such, by the divine favour, has been the effect of the disinterested benevolence of its principle, the catholic spirit of its constitution, the restrictive wisdom of its regulations, and the integrity with which its concerns have been

administered. The British and Foreign Bible Society is no longer an experiment : experience has decided for it more favourably than its warmest advocates ever anticipated, and has pronounced it one of the greatest blessings to the human race that Christian charity ever devised.

“ Permit me for a moment to take a slight view of that magnificent scene which it has been the means of exhibiting to the world, and which has been most amply delineated in the Report. Princes and potentates, the noble, the wise, the learned, and valiant of the earth, proclaiming their homage to the word of God, and aiding and encouraging the circulation of it, by their influence and example. Dignitaries and pastors of every church, Christians of all confessions, cordially uniting, and contributing, according to their several means, their talents, their time, their labour, their wealth, or their pittance, to promote this beneficent work, animating and encouraging each other in the career of benevolence, themselves animated and supported by the prayers and benedictions of thousands who have benefited by their charitable labours. If I were to name a particular instance, out of many, in which the benevolent spirit of our Institution shines with particular lustre, I would advert to the affectionate intercourse which it maintains with kindred Societies all over the world, exciting emulation without envy, and provoking each other to love and good works. And may we not hope that this kind and harmonious feeling, so cordially displayed in the Correspondence and Reports of Foreign Bible Societies, may gradually extend its benign influence, softening the asperity of national jealousies, and insinuating that spirit of conciliation and good will among nations towards each other, which the whole tenour of the Gospel inculcates, and the interests of humanity require. If such should ever be the blessed result of our endeavours to promote the happiness of mankind, through the medium of that holy Book, in which only the knowledge for obtaining it is to be found, the British and Foreign Bible Society will then have acquired a triumph more splendid, more honourable, more useful, than ever was achieved by arms ; and the word of God, which has had such free course, will then indeed be glorified. But, without expatiating on this cheering hope, which all present will, I am sure, be inclined to participate, I may venture to affirm, that, if it were possible to trace, in all its variety and extent, the good produced by the British and Foreign Bible Society, the result would incontestably prove, that public liberality was never more profitably directed, than to support an Institution which breathes peace and good will to men, without distinction of colour or country, Christian or Heathen—was never applied to better or holier uses. But so much of that good has appeared, that I cannot but offer my devout thanksgiving to Almighty God, who has been pleased to make me in any degree instrumental to the production of it ; and if I were to name a day of my life attended with a peculiar blessing, I should fix on that in which I became a Member of this Institution.”

ABSTRACT

Of the twenty-third Report of the London Missionary Society.

SOUTH SEA ISLANDS.

From the last letter received from the Missionaries, dated September 6, 1815, it appears that the number of those who have entered their names, at Eimeo, as professed disciples of Christ, amounts to 362, and the scholars to 600 or 700; among whom are many persons of consequence: many more requested admission, but the teachers were waiting for elementary books, which have since been supplied.

Some of the Chiefs in Otaheite, observing the rapid increase of the "Bure Atua," or "Praying People," as the converts are there called; and conceiving, from the present of a book made by the king to his daughter, that he intended to educate her as a Christian, and that probably in process of time idolatry would be utterly overthrown; formed a resolution, by one sudden blow, to destroy the rising sect. To effect this, several of the idolatrous chiefs, who had been previously rivals and enemies to one another, concurred in a plan to fall on the new converts in the night of July 7, (1815), and to exterminate them altogether. But some of the parties having been rather dilatory, and secret information having happily been given to the people whose ruin was intended, they were enabled to get on board their canoes, and sail for Eimeo, where they safely arrived the next morning.

The disappointed chiefs, reproaching each other for neglect, and calling to mind their ancient animosities, fell on one another with fury. Many, especially of those who first concerted the mischief, were killed, and a large portion of their country was laid waste. The question of religion was lost sight of; and the party feuds of former times were revived; and those who thought themselves in danger, withdrew to Eimeo. The king, who was then at that island, sent repeated messages of a pacific nature to the conquering party, who assured him that they had no quarrel with him, but that they had not yet settled their old differences.

The king has been fully restored to his former sovereignty.

The brethren repeat their earnest desires for a reinforcement of their numbers, especially as they had been deprived by death of one of their most useful members, Mr. Scott. Mr. Crook, who is well acquainted with the language and customs of the people, and has for some years past resided at Port Jackson, has, with his family, removed to Eimeo.

Their work will also be facilitated by the reception of the books printed for their use at Port Jackson; and by the addition of eight labourers, who, together with their wives, have been sent out to assist them. A printing-press has also been forwarded, which one of the Missionaries is qualified to use; so that the Scriptures which they have translated, Tracts, and school-books, will be printed, as occasions require.

The Directors cannot refrain from inviting all their brethren of

this Society to unite with them in grateful admiration of the grace of God, so eminently displayed in the Otaheitan Mission. When the hopes of all were nearly exhausted, then it pleased God to evince that the excellency of the power by which the change was effected was solely divine: then it was, that, in the district where the Missionaries resided, the principal priest openly renounced heathenism, publicly committed his idol to the flames, and united himself to our Christian friends: others followed his example, both in Eimeo and Otaheite: Morais were destroyed, the altars overthrown, and the materials employed to dress their ordinary food, of which different classes and both sexes partook, at one common meal; thus practically renouncing their ancient and established customs.

It is stated in the Sydney Gazette, that "the number of candidates for Christianity exceeds 1000; and that idolatry has received a universal shock, and totters from its foundation, throughout all the islands. Some of the opposing chiefs, with the priests and their followers, endeavour to prop up the rotten fabric, but their efforts tend to the acceleration of its fall."

CHINA.

The obstacles, which impede the full and free diffusion of the truths of Revelation in China, have lately been increased by the unsettled state of political affairs in that country, and the jealousy entertained of all religious efforts.

The letters received during the last year, detail various and new difficulties with which Mr. Morrison has had to contend. He has however commenced new and large editions of the Chinese New Testament, both in octavo and duodecimo, which will probably be executed at Malacca rather than at Canton. Mr. M. is enabled to print his duodecimo Testament at the cost of only about two shillings and six pence each. He has translated the whole of Genesis, and a great part of the Psalms, as was mentioned in our last Report.

To the Embassy lately sent by the British government to the Court of Peking, Mr. Morrison's attainments as a linguist recommended him as one of the interpreters to his Excellency Lord Amherst. He embarked for that purpose in the month of July last, on board the *Alceste* Frigate.

By our American brethren, through the good offices of Mr. Bethune of New-York, and Mr. Ralston of Philadelphia, the sum of £400. sterling was collected, in aid of translating the Scriptures into the Chinese, and transmitted to Canton.

Closely connected with this Mission is that at

MALACCA.

Mr. Milne informs us, that the wishes of Mr. Morrison, of himself, and of the Society, respecting the formation of a settlement for the Extra Ganges Mission, have been in a good measure accomplished.

In the month of January, 1816, Mr. Milne paid a visit to Pe-

nang, or Prince of Wales Island, when he waited on the Governor and the Members of the Council, who received him graciously, and readily granted him a piece of land at Malacca, on which to build a Missionary house and other needful buildings. Malacca has since been restored to the Dutch government, which appears to be equally friendly to the object. The expense of the erections, which will be considerable, will be defrayed, partly by the Society, and partly by subscriptions raised in the Eastern Countries.

The Chinese scholars, under the care of Mr. Milne, had increased to 70. Mr. Thomsen had commenced a day school, and an evening school for the instruction of the Malays. These have been retarded by the temporary suspension of Mr. Thomsen's labours, who was induced, on account of the threatening illness of Mrs. Thomsen, and by the strong recommendation of the physicians, to take a voyage with her to Batavia. Her disorder not abating, she was advised to remove to the Cape, or to England. We are concerned to state, that she died on the voyage; but Mr. Thomsen, who returned to England for a short time, has again taken his departure to Malacca, there to resume his labours in behalf of the Malays.

In addition to Mr. Medhurst, who went out last year to assist Mr. Milne, Mr. Slater, a student from Gosport, is appointed to the same station, and has just sailed with Mr. Thomsen.

Mr. Milne continues to prosecute his translation of the Scriptures into the Chinese language; and to publish his monthly Chinese Magazine, which contains information combined with entertainment, and seems to promise great usefulness to the Chinese people dispersed among the numerous and populous islands of the Eastern Sea. It is read with avidity by them.

DISTRIBUTION OF TRACTS IN CHINA.

Extract of a letter from the Rev. William Milne, dated Malacca, April 18th, 1816.

Having been requested to send home 1,000 Chinese Tracts, to be placed at the disposal of the Religious Tract Society, for the use of such Chinese Sailors as visit the metropolis, I now forward a few for that purpose.

I went lately to Penang, for the purpose of distributing the Holy Scriptures and Religious Tracts among the Chinese; and having also, in the course of this month, sent away a great many Tracts to Siam and Cochin China, by trading junks, my stock is at present exhausted, or I would have sent you more. Just now I have but one type-cutter, and his time is mostly occupied with the Monthly Tract, which we call *The Magazine*. From the peculiar ease and advantage of printing with stereotype blocks, I shall soon be able to furnish a fresh supply of Tracts, and shall not fail of forwarding more by some convenient opportunity.

I have written to my revered friend and colleague, the Rev. R. Morrison, to send you some hundreds of various Chinese Tracts,

The more I see of the ignorance of the Heathen, and the difficulty they find in understanding the truths of the Gospel, so much the more am I convinced of the vast importance of *Religious Tracts*, written in the simplest possible style ; and so much more clearly does the magnitude of the Religious Tract Society's object appear. The lively interest which the Religious Tract Society has taken in promoting the conversion of the Chinese, and the liberal assistance afforded for the extensive circulation of divine truth among that people, make me often almost wish for a body of brass, the wings of an eagle, and the heart of an angel, that I might co-operate more extensively and effectually with you. I resolve that I will do what I can. The Lord help me to do it from a pure principle, and in a prudent manner. Our field is indeed immense ! But how little can be effected by the efforts of one or two individuals !

From some intercourse lately had with persons belonging to Cochin China, I have had an opportunity of satisfying myself, by writing and conversation, that the *written language* of that country, of *Tung-king*, and of *Hai-nan*, is the same, in all respects, (in form and idiom,) with that of *China*. This is pretty generally known ; but I was not so well convinced of it before. It will open a wide door for the word of God. May it have free course, and be glorified ! I am, &c.

JUVENILE DEPARTMENT.

A short Memoir of a YOUNG PERSON, who died February 26th, 1816, in the 15th year of her age.

Our journey through the world is short, but important. We move upon the swift wing of time, which rapidly hurries on the traveller, and suffers him not to rest till he arrives at home in the bosom of eternity. As we proceed along the road, we pass through a variety of prospects, which quickly change. Every stage brings new scenes to our view, while others vanish out of sight, and are seen no more for ever. We just look at them, and they are gone as a shadow, and return not again. At some periods all is light and sunshine : all is gratifying and delightful, while the candle of the Lord is shining on our dwelling. In these days of prosperity, our hearts are ready to dance for joy, and vainly to hope that this may always last. We are too prone to assign perpetuity to what is present, be it pain or pleasure, light or darkness ; but who hath found it so ? All things must quickly change, for so hath God decreed ; tears turn to joy, and joy to sorrow ; pleasures turn to pain, and pain to pleasures ; so all below the sun go on in a constant round of vicissitude, and never continue in one state. Generally the sources of our highest earthly delights are in their turn the fountains of our bitterest lamentations : so uncertain are all our creature comforts ! They alone are wise who seek their enjoyment and rest in the unchangeable God, in that Saviour who is the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever. In our thoughtless moments we forget the nature of the world we are now passing

through. When we go forward with a full tide of prosperity we cry, "My mountain shall stand fast for ever, and I shall know misery no more." But, at an hour when we least expect, our sky darkens, the storm gathers and bursts; all our pleasant prospects are moved aside; the whole scene is changed: we descend at once from the mount of joy to the dark valley of mourning and sorrow. Thus exactly has it happened to the family in which I reside. A very little while ago, few of the families on earth had a larger share of comforts and enjoyments, or fewer evils blended with their pleasures. A family of children, under the care of a prudent affectionate mother, with other friends, formed a little society, joined together in love and harmony, in full enjoyment of health and all that can make life desirable. They then little thought that the moment was so nigh at hand when their number should be lessened. The time is come when one is to be taken, and the rest left to mourn the loss which they so deeply feel. The lot fell on our much beloved Matilda. It pleased God to move her out of this happy domestic circle to join the hosts above. We are for a time left to weep in a world of wo, while the dear departed soul, we hope and trust, is singing with joy unspeakable in the temple above. Could that lovely soul now address us, doubtless her voice would be, "Weep not for me; I have done for ever with sin and sorrow, and have gained the height of all my desires, in arriving safe in glory to be for ever with the Lord." May the survivors trim their lamps, and prepare to meet their God; the time is coming, the day is fixed, and cannot be distant.

If, in describing characters, strong affections must necessarily lead to error, I am in danger: yet, as I regard truth, I shall faithfully endeavour to adhere strictly to it in giving to the young a short memoir of my dear Matilda. God, who giveth unto every one severally, as he will, was liberal in his gifts to this dear child. She had unquestionably a fine mind, quick, comprehensive, and solid, and rather a retentive memory. I am not afraid of erring when I say that few of the children of men are blessed with a more happy temper and disposition than she possessed; meek, mild, affectionate, peaceable, and forgiving. In nothing did she excel more than in contentment and self-denial: pleased with every thing that was appointed for her without murmuring or disputing. This did not proceed from insensibility, for few had finer feelings and more sprightliness. I have had the fairest opportunity of observing her from her infancy, and always observed that it was her constant study and delight to make all happy around her; and when she had an idea that she had caused pain to any, it was greater pain to herself, and she could not rest till all was rectified. In a review of her life I can recollect next to nothing that I could wish had been otherwise. For a child, she was remarkably thoughtful, orderly, and correct. She conducted herself towards every body with the greatest affability, and with the strongest affection to her friends. We need not wonder that so amiable a character should be greatly beloved, which certainly was her case.

When this amiable girl came to lie down on a death-bed, did she ground her hope of salvation on the excellency of her character, on her good understanding, amiable tempers, and correct morals? No, verily : far, very far from it.—She had no idea of human merit, and had no confidence in the flesh, but knew that a sinner must be saved by grace. One day early in her affliction, when conversing with her on this subject, she exclaimed, with considerable earnestness, “ I am a great sinner.” Her life, however, in the eyes of the world appeared to be the most correct and spotless that could easily be found. One of the grand mistakes and fatal errors of a blind unbelieving world is resting their hopes of happiness on human merit, which in fact has no existence. When they behold an amiable youth, possessing sweet dispositions, and a virtuous life, they conclude without doubt or examination, that this must procure the favour of God, and secure heaven. They never stop to ask how the soul is affected towards God ; and they forget that some youth, of the most amiable manners towards their fellow-beings, may yet hate God, reject Christ, and neglect the great salvation. Great pains should be taken to instruct the young ones to know the way they are to be saved ; to prove to them that they merit nothing but death ; that there is a new way to the father ; that “ Christ is the way, the truth, and the life,” and “ that no man cometh to the father but by him.” These radical truths were familiar to the mind, and I trust stamped on the heart of the subject of this memoir. She appeared to me to have not the least expectation of salvation but in and through Christ Jesus, and to count all things else but dross in comparison of him. In no one instance did she discover the least confidence in any excellence in herself as the ground of hope, but lamented her sinfulness and guilt, and earnestly prayed for mercy and forgiveness of sins.

I have not here to describe any extraordinary character, nor to record any remarkable experience, nor yet to repeat some wonderful sayings, to surprise the reader ; but what is to me at least full as satisfactory, I have to speak of a young Christian, who practised holiness in the fear of the Lord, and I trust died in the faith. To see godliness living habitually in characters, is of all others the most satisfactory proof of its reality and power. This dear child always carried about her strong marks of one sanctified from the womb, grew in holiness as she grew in years, and died in the exercise of true religion. Being extremely modest, she said but little, yet evidently appeared to fear God, and love His holy ways. Her whole life was truly consistent with the rules of Christianity : few were less under the power of self-will, or obeyed the dictates of conscience more correctly. She took pleasure in doing her duty, and grieved where she failed. Such was her life : a review of it gladdens our hearts, while we deeply mourn our loss in her removal. Her example, I trust will be long kept in view, and imitated by her surviving and affectionate relatives.

We shall now follow this dear object of our affections to her sick chamber and dying bed, where she was confined about two months.

It was indeed a lovely death-bed. It pleased God in mercy and loving-kindness to allow her and us time for reflection and prayer, before the painful hour of separation arrived. And not a day passed but we prayed with much earnestness and shed many tears together. The moment we fell on our knees around her bed, she would join her hands together, and lift up her eyes to heaven, and with all earnestness sought communion with God. And frequently, when prayer was over, she was observed by those that attended her to be full of spirits and joy. A considerable portion of her time was spent in reading such books as were suitable to her present situation, chiefly the following,—The Sick Man's Friend, by the Rev. Mr. Fry; The Sick Man's Pious Assistant, by the Rev. J. Rennals; Baxter's Dying Thoughts; The Young Cottager, by the Rev. L. Richmond; Janeway's Token for Children; The Leicester and the Moravian Hymns; and Songs in the Night. But the Bible of God was of all others her chief delight; this she would not suffer to be moved from her bed, from the day she was first confined to it, to the day she closed her eyes in death.—A book she was no stranger to before her illness; she, as well as her sisters, had committed to memory, so as to be able to repeat at the time, the whole book of Psalms, the Proverbs, the Gospel of St. John, and the Epistle to the Romans. After this they studied with attention the Scripture Directory, a book that was written professedly for their instruction, especially on the Old Testament, without the least intention at the time of ever offering it to the public. This dear girl seemed to prefer the Psalms to all other parts of Scripture, and the 103d Psalm in particular. Every day I gave her some select portion of Scripture to assist her meditation; and towards the last, when memory declined with the frame, I gave her only expressions, or short texts, some of which were these, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved;" "As many as received him to them gave he power to become the sons of God;" "God is become my salvation, therefore will I hope;" "Trust in the Lord for ever, for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength;" "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world;" "I have said unto the Lord, thou art my God;" "Fear not, I am with thee;" "God all-sufficient;" "And there shall be no night there;" which was the last on the day she departed. Her sufferings were very considerable, as is often the case in consumptions, having constant pains, and sleepless wearisome nights, and her wasted frame torn with a violent cough; yet not one murmur, not a word of complaint, not a symptom of discontent, not one look that discovered impatience, have we witnessed in her. She continued meek, patient, resigned, cheerful, and thankful to the very last. In her acutest pain she would say, "It is nothing to what my Saviour suffered for me." She had no desire to remain longer on the earth; but, from the commencement of her illness her longing was to depart, and she repeatedly said, "It is far better to be in heaven than here;" and frequently, when I spoke to her of the happiness of heaven, her

countenance would brighten with joy. I said to her one day, "We have spent many a happy hour together." She replied, "Yes:" and when I added, "What then will it be when those hours are turned to ages?" instantly her eyes sparkled with peculiar joy and gladness at the prospect. Now she understands the subject better. Nothing could exceed the kind attention and affection of her relatives and friends; yet all the while her longing was to be above: and on Monday, February 26, 1816, God took her to Himself. She was released on a sudden, without a struggle, and entered into rest. On the Monday following, she was interred at the side of her late worthy father, in the church-yard at S——. The Rev. Mr. D—— preached at the time a very impressive sermon from Isa. lxiv. 6, "And we all do fade as a leaf"

Youth's Mag.

REVIVAL IN MECKLINBURGH COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

The following is an extract of a letter to the Editor, from a gentleman in Caswell county, North Carolina, dated July 22d, 1817.

"It has pleased God to pour out his Holy Spirit in a very remarkable manner in Mecklinburgh county, Virginia. The convincing influences of the Holy Spirit began to be witnessed in August or September of the last year; since which time *more than one hundred persons* have been made the hopeful subjects of converting grace, and enrolled amongst the followers of Christ in the various denominations. The blessed work is still progressing with undiminished vigour. It is not confined to any particular rank. The high and the low, the rich and the poor, are convinced 'of sin, of righteousness, and a judgment to come,' and are made to fly to Christ, the ark of safety, the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.

"The amount of the above statement I received from a pious gentleman, who lives where the revival is experienced. The distance from this place is about forty miles. I expected to visit them myself; but hitherto my designs have been frustrated. If I should visit them, or otherwise obtain more particular information respecting the revival, I will endeavour to communicate it to you."

Weekly Recorder.

COMPLAINT TO JAVA

ON THE DEATH OF THE REV. T. TROWT.

Thou sickly isle—and was thy burning breath
 'The traitor's kiss upon the lip of love?
 Hadst thou no guerdon but the gale of death,
 To greet thy gentle Envoy from above?
 Yet from that lonely grave shall Java's sigh
 Float on the breezes of his native shore,
 And woo its dear ambassadors to die,
 Where *his* last accents breath'd *their* living lore.

Bap. Mag.